

Date: Tue, 18 Mar 2008 17:21:18 -0000  
De: "Sonam Sangmo" <tsgdesk@GOV.TIBET.NET>  
Objet: One week update

## **Complete one-week update on Tibet Protests**

**Tuesday, 18 March 2008, 4:50 p.m.**

---

*Chronological Information outlined below shows how pressure has been building up towards the current turmoil in Tibet.*

**10th March 2008**

### **Tibetan National Uprising anniversary- Lhasa protest**

On the 49th Tibetan National Uprising anniversary, about 7 monks staged a peaceful demonstration in the Barkhor area of Lhasa, the capital city of Tibet, carrying three Tibetan national flags. As soon as the monks began to shout slogans, the public joined in to support them. But before it gained momentum, the Chinese police appeared at the scene arresting first the monks who started the protest and beating them fiercely.

Following this, the police ordered all the shops and street vendors in the Barkhor area to close down and dispersed the crowd, thus greatly affecting the lives of the commuters who were conducting their day-to-day activities. On the whole, the demonstration was put down by the Chinese government within a short period of time.

### **Jyekundo ( " Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture" Qinghai)**

On 9 March, hundreds of banned portraits of His Holiness the Dalai Lama were confiscated from a number of homes in Jyekundo, (Ch: Yushu/Jiegu) "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture", Qinghai Province during a midnight raid conducted by local Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials. Two families were reportedly fined 500 Yuan each for possessing the banned portraits. The next day, pamphlets calling for Tibet's independence were known to have been pasted on the walls around the area.

### **Lutsang Monastery (Mangra County, Tsolho " Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture ")**

In yet another incident, a protest has also been reported from the traditional Tibetan area of Amdo in Mangra County, Tsolho (Ch: Hainan) 'Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture' ("TAP") Qinghai Province on 10 March. About 137 monks from Lutsang Monastery in Mangra County, Tsolho "TAP" and around 200 laypersons from the area were barred by the Mangra County People's Armed Police (PAP) forces when they converged outside the County Assembly Hall where a government sponsored show was going on. Sensing a protest by the Tibetans, the show was forced to discontinue. Later monks and laypeople started shouting slogans "Long live Dalai Lama" and "The Dalai Lama should return to Tibet". At the moment there is no report of Tibetans having been arrested from the area, although, the concerned authorities are known to be investigating those involved in the protest.

### **Tsuklakhang Temple (Barkhor street, Lhasa) and Sera Monastery (Lhasa)**

On 10 March a group of around fifteen monks, later joined by two laypersons led a peaceful pro-Tibet march from Tsuklakhang Temple, proclaiming pro-independence slogans, distributing pamphlets and raising the banned Tibetan national flags at Barkhor Street in Lhasa. They were arrested immediately by the stationed Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials following a brief protest march on Barkhor Street - one of the busiest market areas around the city. The arrested Tibetans were reportedly beaten severely and manhandled by the PSB officials. Moreover, the shops and vendors around Barkhor Street were ordered to close and pack up. The detained monks were confirmed to be visiting student monks of Sera Monastery, mainly from the Kham and Amdo regions of Tibet. Additional contingents of armed forces were deployed to the area to issue an explicit warning to people against undertaking further protests as well as to control and monitor the activities of the people.

On 11 March, about 2000 strong Chinese troop fired tear gas in order to disperse hundreds of monks from Sera Monastery who were calling for the release of their fellow monks and shouting pro-Tibet slogans. The situation in Sera Monastery and Drepung Monastery are known to be very tense at the moment with People's Armed Police forces sealing off the monasteries thereby completely curbing the people's movement in and out of the area, including protesting laypeople from visiting these monasteries. The 15 peaceful protestors are confirmed to have been arrested and their whereabouts are unknown.

### **Drepung Monastery (Lhasa municipality)**

According to sources within Tibet, on the evening of 10 March, about three hundred monks from Drepung Monastery, located on the outskirts of the capital, attempted to start a planned peaceful protest march towards Barkhor Street, Lhasa. However, they were obstructed from proceeding with their peaceful march by a large number of Chinese armed police before reaching Lhasa. A few monks from the group suspected to be the ringleaders were believed to be arrested by Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials.

The situation in Drepung Monastery, where around 300 monks staged a peaceful demonstration on 10 March, is known to be very tense with authorities deploying additional People's Armed Police (PAP) forces into the area. There has been a similar deployment of armed forces including plain clothed police and agents reportedly present in and around Barkhor Street in Lhasa to deal with any protests.

### **Ditsa Monastery (Bayan County, Haidong Prefecture, Qinghai Province)**

In one incident, around 20 local Chinese officials convened a meeting of monks at Ditsa Monastery. However, around 70 monks walked out of the meeting carrying the portrait of the Dalai Lama and shouted pro-independence slogans. Later the monks proceeded towards a small hill behind the monastery to offer Sangsol Prayer (incense burning ceremony), and were later joined by onlookers. Open calls for solidarity with "the peace marcher from Dharamsala to Lhasa," initiated by leading exiled Tibetan NGOs, were even reportedly raised by the monks. A total of around four hundred people gathered for the prayer that day. No cases of arrest or detention of Tibetans are known from the area so far and there is no report of the Chinese sending additional police force to the area.

### **Raid in former political prisoners' homes**

According to sources, since 10 March, sudden raids continue to be conducted in the homes of former political prisoners by the authorities looking particularly for any incriminating CDs such as the US Congressional Gold Medal to His Holiness the Dalai Lama ceremony which have covertly been in circulation recently, or electronic goods particularly computers, phones and Internet connections.

### **Labrang Tashikyil Monastery (Sangchu County, "Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture")**

Incidents of police removing pamphlets calling for Tibet's independence were reported from Labrang Tashikyil Monastery in Sangchu County, "TAP" incorporated into Chinese province of Gansu.

### **Karze (capital of Karze, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, incorporated into Chinese province of Sichuan)**

There are also reports of people having pasted pamphlets calling for Tibet's independence from Karze County, Karze "TAP" Sichuan Province on 10 March. So far there is no information on case of arrest or detention from the area.

**11th March 2008**

### **Recall of government employees and restriction in Tibet University**

On 11 March, the authorities of Lhasa City have recalled all the employees of various government departments who were on leave to return to work immediately and issued a restraint order banning taking leave. Restrictions were also imposed on the movement of students, including Tibet University students in Lhasa, with authorities increasing the vigilance personnel and keeping a record of student movements at the main entrance gate of the University.

Dabpa (Karze, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan province) We have confirmed reports that the three Tibetans shot by the Chinese Police were killed and at least ten people have been injured in the Dabpa protest. Instructions were given to shoot at the protestors since they were believed by higher Chinese authorities that they were engaging in "splittist activities."

**12th March 2008**

### **Gaden Monastery**

Similarly, Gaden Monastery (about 50 Kms east of Lhasa City), remains sealed off and surrounded by People's Armed Police since yesterday afternoon, following the protest by monks.

## **Chutsang Nunnery**

On the morning of 12 March, coinciding with the Tibetan Women's Uprising Day, around a hundred Tibetan nuns from Chutsang Nunnery in the west side of Lhasa marched towards Barkhor Street for a peaceful demonstration. However, they were blocked by Chinese People's Armed Police from moving forward and sent back to their nunnery. There are no reports of arrest or detention after the march.

**13th March 2008**

However, on the morning of 13 March, the same group of nuns from Chutsang Nunnery carried out their protest march towards Lhasa and have not yet returned to their monastery. On contacting the monastery, only a few senior nuns remain there.

**14th March 2008**

## **Ramoche Temple (Lhasa)**

Information coming out of Lhasa has confirmed that most of Lhasa has been surrounded by People's Armed Police (PAP) following a peaceful protest led by monks of the Ramoche temple in Lhasa this morning.

**13th March 2008**

## **Local NGO s warned by authorities**

The local Foreign Bureau Office in Lhasa has issued a warning to NGO s (especially those with links to the outside world) that any information given to foreigners regarding the protests in Tibet could result in strict legal action against the individual or even the shutting down of the NGO. The Foreign Bureau Office has also said that they have blocked the entry of foreigners into Tibet. The NGO s have been specifically instructed by the Foreign Bureau office that the only contact they can have with foreigners is to assure them that the protests in Tibet will be stabilized very shortly. NGO s were also warned that if they were found sending information through e-mails/using the internet for disseminating information on the current Tibet situation, then strict action would be taken against them. Also, just a few days ago, complete background information of foreigners involved with local NGO s was collected by the local Foreign Bureau office.

**March 15th 2008**

## **Nyangden (North of Lhasa near the Sera Monastery)**

In Nyangden, over 200 people took part in protests according to sources.

## **Karma Kunsang (East of Lhasa)**

There have been reports of people demonstrating in the streets of Karma Kunsang. Tear Gas was forcibly used against the peaceful demonstrators. In Labrang Tashikyil Monastery (Sangchu County, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture) there have been major protests by mostly lay people. At least four people were taken into custody by the People's Armed forces.

## **Toelung county (under Lhasa municipality)**

One reliable source has confirmed that a military truck full of unidentified dead bodies was seen being carried away towards Toelung county. Lithang (in Karze, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan province) During minor protests, at least two of the protestors were arrested and taken into custody as confirmed by a source. The protests took place in Othok (under Lithang county) and few other villages in Lithang county. There were also protests in Sershul monastery (in Tawu county).

## **Samye Monastery (Dranang county, Lhaka Prefecture, Tibetan Autonomous Region)**

There was a protest held at Samye Monastery and Home Guards/Surveillance Police were called in from Lhasa to suppress the protest.

## **Amdo, Labrang (Tibetan area incorporated into Chinese province of Gansu)**

From 5000-6000 people took part in a major protest in Amdo that started around 11am and was led by mostly nomadic Tibetans. Among many other things, they were demanding for the return of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The People's Armed Police (PAP) used tear gas on the demonstrators.

### **Phenpo Lhundup Dzong (under Lhasa municipality)**

There was a protest by monks and laypeople. Monks of Gaden Monastery, nearby monasteries and laypeople protested in front of the County headquarters. Additional Public Security Bureau (PSB) personnel were sent in from Lhasa to suppress the protestors.

### **Gaden Monastery (about 50 kms east of Lhasa)**

Gaden Monastery remains under extremely strict Chinese military presence. The number of military personnel is so high that they are running out of tent space for their personnel.

### **Tashi Lhunpo monastery (Shigatse)**

There was shooting inside the compounds of Tashi Lhunpo monastery and at least 40 laypeople protesting behind the Tashi Lhunpo monasteries have been arrested as confirmed by one source.

### **Lhasa arrests continue**

Over 500 people have been arrested in Lhasa alone; however the numbers are expected to be astoundingly larger since all those arrested are being taken to prisons all over Tibet.

### **Media under tight watch**

All media personnel (including foreign media) inside Tibet are being questioned and there are reports that their recorded materials (video footage, pictures) have been destroyed or confiscated.

**16th March 2008**

### **80 deaths in Lhasa confirmed**

Reliable sources have confirmed that at least 80 people were killed on 14th March 2008 in Lhasa. One very reliable source has confirmed that many of the dead bodies have been stashed in front of a Public Security Department office in Lhasa.

### **Kirti monastery, Amdo (Tibetan area incorporated into Chinese province of Sichuan)**

Around 9:30 am this morning at Kirti Monastery which has remain completely sealed off by Chinese military, over a thousand monks fled the tight security (after two unsuccessful attempts earlier) and were joined by another thousand layperson-protestors outside the Monastery compound. Tear gas was used on the demonstrators and gun shots were heard according to a reliable source. We have confirmed reports that few of the protestors have been shot and killed by the People's Armed Police during the protest.

### **Officials warned not to take part in protests**

Higher Chinese authorities have instructed Tibetan officials inside Tibet to not take part in any of the protests. Their movement has been restricted and they are required to sign in and out if they wish to leave outside their homes according to a reliable source.

### **Ragya Monastery, Machen County (Golog, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai province)**

Monks of Ragya Monastery held a protest.

### **Students Protest in Kanlho (Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture)**

Few of the schools in Kanlho, held protests.

### **Achok Monastery (Sangchu County, Kanlho, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture)**

Protests were held at Achok Monastery today.

### **Machu county (Kanlho, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture)**

Protests were held by students, former Tibetan officials and laypeople in Machu County. The student protestors were arrested at the scene. In Luchu County (Kanlho, TAP) and Chabcha county (Tsolho, TAP) protests were also held.

### **In Rongpo monastery (Amdo province)**

Monks of Rongpo Monastery held a major protest in the field in front of their monastery. Public Security Bureau (PSB) officials arrived to suppress the protestors. There was an attempt by the monastery head to placate the situation through dialogue with the Chinese officials who arrived at the scene. After the discussions the PSB personnel may have left the scene, however, this cannot be confirmed. The monks of Rongpo monastery are determined to continue on with the protest. No further details.

### **In Meldro Gongkar County, east of Lhasa (Lhasa municipality)**

Protests were held by the monks of Pangsa monastery. Some of the monks were arrested; however, they were released later due to pressure from the lay people. Some of the monks who protested were able to run for safety towards a hill close by.

### **University students on Hunger strike**

In China, around 500 Tibetan students of Northwest-Nationalities University started a hunger strike around 4pm local time at the campus ground.

## **March 17th 2008**

Pangsa Monastery and Meldro Gongkar County (about 70kms from Lhasa) Today, thousands of protestors led by monks of Pangsa and other monasteries of Medro Gongkar held a massive protest. Seven People's Armed Police (PAP) trucks full of police personnel which arrived at the scene was not able to suppress the protest and more PAPs continue to be arrive at the scene. All schools, shops and offices in the area were shut down.

### **Tsang Monastery, Yulgan County (Malho, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province)**

A protest by over 500 monks of Tsang Monastery was held around 10AM this morning. Monks put up the Tibetan flag on the monastery rooftop and also carried the portrait of His Holiness the Dalai Lama while protesting peacefully. The People's Armed Police (PAP) has arrived to suppress the protestors however the protest continues.

### **Students protest in Machu County (Kanlho, Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Gansu province)**

A protest was held by a massive number of student protesters in Machu County. All of the students present were arrested.

### **Gaden Chokor monastery, Phenpo Lhundrup County (near Lhasa)**

The protests at Gaden Chokor monastery continue from yesterday.

### **In Serthar County (Karze TAP, Sichuan Province)**

Protests continue in Serthar county from yesterday.

### **In Driru County (Nagchu Prefecture, Tibet Autonomous Region)**

At Harthang monastery, Pelu Trulku (reincarnated lama) was suppose to give a spiritual teaching towards the end of February 2008. However, local Chinese "work teams" did not allow the teachings to take place, as a result, there was a scuffle between the local Tibetans and the Chinese "work teams". On 3rd March 2008, additional Chinese "work teams" were brought in and all Tibetans between the ages of 18-30 were forced to undergo "patriotic re-

education." On March 14th the road connecting Nagchu to Lhasa was completely blocked off. Non-residents of Nagchu were forced to leave. From each household in Nagchu the names of each male individual was collected.

*Around 100 unidentified people have been killed in the protests so far. In and around Lhasa, around 400 people have been injured.*

**([www.tibet.net](http://www.tibet.net) is the official website of the Central Tibetan Administration of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.)**